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## (12) INTER PARTES REEXAMINATION CERTIFICATE (1050th)

### **United States Patent**

Abelow

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# (54) CUSTOMER-BASED PRODUCT DESIGN MODULE

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(\*) Notice: This patent is subject to a terminal dis-

claimer.

#### Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation of application No. 09/369,391, filed on Aug. 6, 1999, now Pat. No. 7,133,834, which is a continuation of application No. 08/934,457, filed on Sep. 19, 1997, now Pat. No. 5,999,908, which is a continuation of application No. 08/243,638, filed on May 16, 1994, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 07/926,333, filed on Aug. 6, 1992, now abandoned.

(51) Int. Cl.

G06Q 99/00 (2006.01) G06F 17/00 (2006.01) G06F 9/44 (2006.01) (58) Field of Classification Search

None

See application file for complete search history.

#### (56) References Cited

To view the complete listing of prior art documents cited during the proceeding for Reexamination Control Number 95/000,638, please refer to the USPTO's public Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system under the Display References tab.

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#### (57) ABSTRACT

A network, including a product sub-system that interacts with a user, gathers information from the user, communicates the information to the product's vendor, and receives new preprogrammed interactions from the vendor for future interactions with the user. The sub-system is in or attached to a product. Further components include a data processing system for constructing and downloading pre-programmed interactions to the product sub-system; a communications sub-system for transmitting the data from the product subsystem to the vendor's computer; a communications apparatus for reading the product sub-system's data, transmitting it to the vendor's computer, and downloading new pre-programmed interactions to the product sub-system; a data processing system residing in the product sub-system for conducting interactions with a user; and a data processing system residing in the vendor's computer for analyzing and reporting information gathered from users.

